

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/800,401

Examiner

Justin Krause

Applicant(s)

KRUPPA, MARTIN

Art Unit

3682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's response filed July 31, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


RICHARD RIDLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Henry Feiereisen on October 4, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following changes have been made to cancel non-allowable claims:

Claims 17-21 and 24 have been cancelled.

The following changes have been made to cancel claims drawn to species not readable on the remaining independent claims:

Claims 13-17, 22, 23 and 25-29 have been cancelled.

The following changes have been made to rejoin withdrawn claims:

Claims 2-5 and 8-12 have been rejoined.

The following changes have been made to better define the structure claimed:

Claim 1, line 5, the phrase --an outer circumferential surface-- has been added after the phrase "provided with".

Claim 1, line 8, the phrase "wherein the resistance member is recessed about its circumference for" has been changed to -- the resistance member has a recess

Art Unit: 3682

extending axially and circumferentially between the central axial projection and the outer circumferential surface--.

Claim 1, line 12, the phrase "about its circumference" has been changed to -- circumferentially--.

The following changes have been made for consistency of the claim language:

Claim 2, line 2, the word --central-- has been inserted before "axial projection".

Claim 3, line 1, the word --central-- has been inserted before "axial projection".

Claim 4, line 1, the word --central-- has been inserted before "axial projection".

Claim 8, line 4, the word --central-- has been inserted before "axial projection".

Claim 9, line 2, the word --central-- has been inserted before "axial projection".

Claim 11, line 3, the word --central-- has been inserted before "axial projection".

Claim 12, line 2, the word --central-- has been inserted before "axial projection".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art, taken as a whole, does not teach or render obvious the claimed combination wherein comprising a bearing arrangement for supporting a universal joint trunnion in an outer cup and a resistance member provided with an outer circumferential surface, a central axial projection and an outer surface extending coextensively with and resting flatly against the bottom wall of the cup, the resistance member further comprising a recess extending axially and circumferentially between the

central axial projection and the outer circumferential surface defining a reservoir for lubricant.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin Krause whose telephone number is 571-272-3012. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on 571-272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JMK
10/14/06


RICHARD RIDLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER